

ablest men of our State, said in his testimony to that committee, "that if the Directors of the Penitentiary are required by law to confine the labor of the convicts to the manufacture of articles made by power-looms, the Institution will not be able to support itself, and must look to the State Treasury, for its maintenance." It is the opinion of your committee, that to be destitute of the means of using power-looms in the Penitentiary, or making such other changes in the employment of convicts, as to render their labor more productive, is equivalent to being restrained by law from making these changes, and such is now (and has been for some years past) the condition of that establishment; but judging from the revenues of many other prisons, your committee doubt very much whether any plan can be devised by which our Penitentiary could permanently support itself, and hence we agree with the Directors, that the true policy is to make such gradual changes in this regard, as an enlightened judgment may from time to time suggest, with the view of increasing the prison's productiveness.

In conclusion, your committee recommend (and herewith submit a bill to that effect), that immediately after said bill shall become a law, the Directors of the Penitentiary be authorised to draw upon the Treasurer of the State for the sum of ten thousand dollars, to cover their deficiency of the last year and to meet any loss that has since accrued; and that, at the end of the second, third and fourth quarters of their present fiscal year respectively, they be authorised to draw on the Treasurer for the sum of two thousand dollars, to enable the Institution to supply the deficiency of the year that will end on the 30th of November next, and which, in the opinion of your committee, cannot be provided against by the best possible management. Then, as your committee have before advised, we recommend that at the end of the first quarter of their next fiscal year, (February 28th, 1853,) and at each quarter thereafter, the Directors be authorised to draw on the Treasurer for the sum of three thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars, for the payment of the salaries of the officers of the prison.

Deeming this arrangement the most proper one to be made to relieve the Penitentiary from similar embarrassments in the future, to those under which it has so often labored heretofore, and which, in a series of years, must entail a heavy loss upon the State, in discounts for the use of money and purchases on long credits, your committee beg leave to express the hope that it will receive the full sanction of the General Assembly, and that the appropriations we advise for the present relief of the Institution, will be granted at the earliest practicable period.

The attention of your committee having been called to that clause of the 2nd section of the act of 1837, which provides that no Director, Clerk, or other officer of the Penitentiary, shall be appointed